Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace the originally filed claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 – 10 (canceled).

Claim 11 (currently amended): ~~An apparatus which may be used as a fluid distribution and control valve, said apparatus~~ An onboard system for delivering respiratory gas to a mask connected to a user fluid circuit, comprising:

a) a user fluid circuit connected to a mask;

b) a valve body comprising at least ~~four~~ first, second, third, and fourth internal zones, wherein:

~~1) said internal zones comprise a first zone; and~~

~~2)~~ said first zone is ~~connectable to a~~ connected to said user fluid circuit;

[[b]] c) at least four fluid passages, wherein each said fluid passage connects a corresponding one of said ~~zone~~ zones to an external fluid circuit, one of the external fluid circuit being said user fluid circuit; and

[[c]] d) a mobile structure, wherein:

1) said mobile structure can be moved into at least four positions; and

2) depending upon said movement of said mobile structure:

~~aa)~~ fluid communication is established between at least two of said zones;

~~bb)~~ at least two other of said zones are isolated from each other; and

~~cc)~~ said first zone is selectively brought into communication with at least one other of said zone.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein:

a) ~~said apparatus further comprises:~~

~~1) a second zone, wherein~~ said second zone is connectable to a first pressurized fluid source; and

~~2) a third zone, wherein~~ said third zone is connectable to a second pressurized fluid source; and

b) said first and said second pressurized fluid sources supply said user fluid circuit sequentially.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 12, ~~further comprising a fourth zone,~~ wherein said fourth zone is connectable to a vent circuit.

Claim 14 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said mobile structure is connected to a positioning servomotor.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 13, wherein:

a) said mobile structure comprises a slide ~~for~~ sliding on partition walls; and

b) said ~~sliding~~ partition walls define said zones.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 15, wherein:

a) said apparatus has an internal layout which is symmetrical with respect to a center plane; and

b) said center ~~plain~~ plane is substantially perpendicular to said mobile structure.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 16, wherein said first zone and said fourth ~~zone~~ zones are arranged:

a) about said center plane; and

b) on either side of said mobile structure.

Claim 18 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 17, further comprising a pair of intermediate chambers, wherein said intermediate chambers are in permanent communication with said first zone.

Claim 19 (currently amended): An apparatus ~~which may be~~ used for delivering respiratory gas to a passenger, said apparatus comprising a mask connected to a user circuit and a system for delivering respiratory gas to a passenger, wherein:

a) said system comprises a fluid distribution and control valve; and

b) said fluid distribution and control valve comprises:

1) a valve body comprising at least ~~four~~ first, second, third, and fourth internal zones, wherein:

~~aa) said internal zones comprise a first zone; and~~

~~bb)~~ said first zone is ~~connectable~~ connected to [[a]] said user fluid circuit;

2) at least four fluid passages, wherein each of said fluid ~~passage~~ passages connects a corresponding one of said ~~zone~~ zones to an external fluid circuit, one of the external fluid circuit being said user fluid circuit; and

3) a mobile structure, wherein:

~~aa)~~ said mobile structure can be moved into at least four positions; and

~~bb)~~ depending upon said movement of said mobile structure;

i) fluid communication is established between at least two of said zones;

ii) at least two other of said zones are isolated from each other; and

iii) said first zone is selectively brought into communication with at least one other of said ~~zone~~ zones.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 19, wherein:

~~a) said fluid distribution and control valve further comprises:~~

~~1) a second zone, wherein~~ said second zone is connectable to a first pressurized fluid source; and

~~2) a third zone, wherein~~ said third zone is connectable to a second pressurized fluid source; and

b) said first and said second pressurized fluid sources supply said user fluid circuit sequentially.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The apparatus of claim 20, wherein:

~~a) said fluid distribution and control valve, further comprises a fourth zone; and~~

~~b)~~ said fourth zone is connectable to a vent circuit.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:

a) said fluid distribution and control valve further comprises a pair of intermediate chambers; and

b) said intermediate chambers are in permanent communication with said first zone.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The apparatus of claim 22, wherein:

a) said first pressurized fluid source comprises a main oxygen source; and

b) said second pressurized fluid source comprises an emergency oxygen source.